



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cameroon Country Brief November 2021



Operational Context

An estimated 40 percent of Cameroon's 27.2 million people live below the poverty line, rising up to 52 percent for women. The human development index remains low (0.563 compared to a global average of 0.737 (UNDP, 2020)). The country has been significantly affected by three complex crises: armed conflict between non-state armed groups and state forces is escalating in the North West and South West regions; non-State armed groups (NSAGs) insurgency in the Lake Chad Basin resulting in an influx of refugees from Nigeria as well as internal displacements in the Far North Region and the influx of Central African Republic (CAR) refugees in the East, Adamawa, and North regions. These resulted in over 1 million internally displaced people and more than 449,000 refugees.

The Humanitarian response plan (HRP March 2021) revealed that 4.4 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in Cameroon, with more than 2.3 million estimated to be food insecure between October and December 2021 (Cadre Harmonisé October 2021 preliminary figures).

The vulnerabilities have been aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Centre for Disease Control, CDC, as 9 December 2021 there were 107,549 confirmed cases and 1,823 COVID-related deaths reported since the pandemic began. About 4 percent have received at least one dose of the vaccine, with only 3 percent having received both doses.

WFP carries out emergency food assistance and nutrition support in all the three crises, while building the resilience and livelihoods of host populations. WFP has been present in Cameroon since 1978.



Population: **27.2 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **153 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Severe acute malnutrition: **1.6% of children under 5 years**

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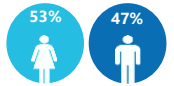
In Numbers

4,761 mt of food distributed

USD 895,861 cash transfer value distributed

USD 46.9 million (December 2021 to May 2022) net funding requirements

611,358 people (321,516 women) assisted in October 2021



Operational Updates

North-West/South-West L2 response

- Under its crisis response operations in the North-West and South-West regions, WFP distributed 1,556 mt of food to 191,389 beneficiaries (53 percent women) as unconditional resource transfer (URT).
- As part of its malnutrition prevention programme, WFP also provided 40 mt of specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) to 8,520 children aged 6-59 months and to 4,710 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs).

Lake Chad response

- In the Far North Region, WFP supported 138,470 beneficiaries, of which 54 percent are women with 1,355 mt of food and USD 234,065 cash transfers as URT.
- WFP also provided 96 mt of SNFs to 30,954 children aged 6-59 months.
- School feeding activities have resumed for the 2021/2022 academic year. In October, WFP distributed 799 mt of food to 57,840 school children
- To promote resilience, WFP provided 106 mt of food and USD 201,583 cash transfers to 21,155 beneficiaries (54 percent women). Assets being created include rehabilitation of irrigation canals, construction of granaries, tree planting, community farms for cereals and vegetables, fishponds, digging of wells and water points for animals, and rehabilitation of farm roads.

Central African Republic refugees response

- In the East, Adamawa and North regions, WFP distributed 340 mt of food and transferred USD 403,558 cash to 93,410 beneficiaries (53 percent women) as URT.
- WFP further distributed 11 mt of SNFs to 39,405 children aged 6-59 months for malnutrition prevention.
- To enable refugees to build their resilience through asset creation, WFP provided 350 mt of food and USD 56,654 to 25,505 beneficiaries, 64 percent of whom are women. Ongoing activities include the construction of 11 community food storage houses, construction of a 7.5 metres water channel for fishponds and weeding and ridging of 100 hectares of farm.
- Three WFP-supported farmers' groups were legalized into cooperatives.

UNHAS

- UNHAS transported 514 passengers on two routes in October: Bamenda and Maroua/N'Djamena, bringing the total number of passengers transported in 2021 to 4,605. Overall, 1.4 mt of cargo was also transported in September.

Photo: School children in the Adamawa Region drinking yoghurt produced from locally sourced and processed ingredients. WFP's pilot Home-Grown School Feeding project aims to use 100 percent locally-produced foods such as eggs, milk and cereals to produce nutritious meals nationwide. Credit: WFP/Aurelie Lecrivain (December 2021)

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

2021 Total Requirement (in USD)	2021 Available Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
143.3 m	87.7 m	46.9 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Populations affected by disasters, including refugees, IDPs and host populations in the Far North, North, Adamawa, East, North West and South West regions have safe access to adequate and nutritious food during and after crises.

Focus area: *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Provide unconditional food assistance with accompanying social and behavioral change communication for vulnerable households affected by disaster.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable households in protracted displacement and communities at risk in chronically food-insecure areas have safe year-round access to adequate and nutritious food and increase their resilience to shocks.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide school feeding and a home-grown school feeding pilot for primary schoolchildren in target regions.
- Provide targeted seasonal food assistance to food-insecure host populations during lean seasons to address short-term hunger gaps.
- Provide food assistance to support early recovery and community resilience, environmental protection and adaptation in target communities.

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Children aged 6-59 months and vulnerable women and men in food-insecure prioritized districts have reduced malnutrition rates in line with national standards by 2020.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Implement malnutrition prevention activities including BSF for children aged 6-59 months, treatment of MAM for children aged 24-59 months and food by prescription for malnourished ART patients.
- Train community health workers in malnutrition prevention through multi-sectoral coordination systems and partnerships.
- Enhance capacities in health districts to implement the joint action plan and support SUN.

Strategic Result 3: Improve small holders' productivity

Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure smallholders, especially women, in prioritized districts of the Far North, North, Adamawa and East regions have sustainably increased incomes to enhance their self-reliance and livelihoods and improve their productivity.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance for small-scale farmers and cooperatives – prioritizing women's representation and leadership – in post-harvest management and value-chain opportunities, in collaboration with IFAD and FAO.

Strategic Result 5: Capacity strengthening

Strategic Outcome 5: The Government's work to achieve Zero Hunger is supported by effective partnerships by 2030.

Focus area: *Root causes*

Activities:

- Provide technical expertise to Government and partners to plan and coordinate work for zero hunger, including early warning, preparedness and food security and nutrition response, national nutrition-sensitive, shock-responsive and gender-responsive safety net systems, and provide common management of information technology, warehouses and delivery corridors.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership

Strategic Outcome 6: The humanitarian community and development partners in Cameroon have access to common services until appropriate and sustainable alternatives are available and reliable all year

Focus area: *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Provide safe and reliable air services for the humanitarian community until alternatives are available.
- Provide supply chain services to humanitarian and development partners, including transport, storage of food and non-food items.

Country Strategic Plan version, CSP 2.0 (2022-2026)

- WFP is currently revising its current Cameroon Country Strategic Plan (CSP). In the next CSP, WFP will aim to broaden its role and scope from an operational partner to a provider of focused and systems-based technical support and institutional strengthening to support food security and social protection.
- This will be achieved through an integrated resilience framework that addresses the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition, while enhancing linkages within its own and partners' programmes to maximize impact.
- CSP 2.0 will be based on five strategic outcomes (SO): SO1 (access to adequate and nutritious food) and SO5 (Reach and response to emergencies) focus on crisis response; SO2 (improved nutritional status and resilience) and SO3 (enhanced livelihoods and resilience to shocks) focus on resilience building; while SO4 (strengthened capacity and social protection systems) focuses on root causes

Note: The new CSP will be submitted to WFP's Executive Board for approval.

Monitoring

The post distribution monitoring (PDM) for the third quarter revealed the following trends when compared to the second quarter PDM:

- There was a 2 percent reduction in the acceptable food consumption score from the second to the third quarter (from 53 percent to 51 percent). This could be explained by the disruptions of operations due to security reasons in the North-West and South-West Regions.
- As usual, the stress index for cash beneficiary households was slightly lower than for food beneficiary households, possibly because of the flexibility of cash transfers that allows households to purchase a wider variety of foodstuff.
- Overall, fewer households spent 65 percent or more of their cash assistance on food in quarter three (33 percent of households) than in quarter two (42 percent of households). This could imply that more households spent more on other basic necessities.
- 95 percent of beneficiaries indicated that they received WFP's assistance without any challenges, as opposed to 98 percent in the previous quarter. This drop could be explained by the recent security issues in the North-West and South-West Regions.

Funding Update

- Between December 2021 and May 2022, WFP urgently needs an additional USD 47 million to assist about one million beneficiaries, of which USD 16 is for the current CSP ending in February 2022.

Donors

Donors to WFP Cameroon in 2021 include Canada, China, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States. Additional support was provided by UN CERF.